



City of Beaufort/Town of Port Royal Fire Department

# NEWS RELEASE

**For immediate release**

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Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Contact: Battalion Chief Ross Vezin, 843-525-7092

## *“Firefighters make a quick stop on the fire and save two homes”*

The City of Beaufort/Town of Port Royal Fire Department and the Burton Fire District responded to a structure fire in downtown Port Royal yesterday evening, Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:18 pm. While en route to the incident, fire crews were notified that a shed was fully involved on the property, but the first arriving Engine Company found two sheds fully involved and a third approximately 50% involved with two homes 10 feet from the fire at risk of catching on fire. “The first arriving Engine Companies did exactly what we train on, prevent the fire from spreading to exposures. The fire crews first cooled the exposures and prevented them from catching on fire and then extinguished the sheds” said Lieutenant Andy Vinson.

Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire within several minutes of arriving on scene but stayed on scene performing salvage and overhaul for over two hours. Battalion Chief Matt Bowsher stated, “It is nice to see the things we work so hard on in training come together and have an outcome like this. Protection of the exposure in an incident like this was the priority this evening and that is exactly what happened”. No injuries were reported from this incident.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. The origin was determined to be one of the three sheds.

Homeowners are encouraged to safely store all chemicals, fuel, and oily rags in an approved container. Make sure your barbecue grill, lawn equipment, and motorcycles have fully cooled down before putting them in your shed. Ensure that you do not overload power sockets and that the main source of power is protected by a circuit breaker.

The City of Beaufort/Town of Port Royal, the Burton Fire District, Beaufort County EMS, and the Town of Port Royal Police Department all responded to this incident.

**END**